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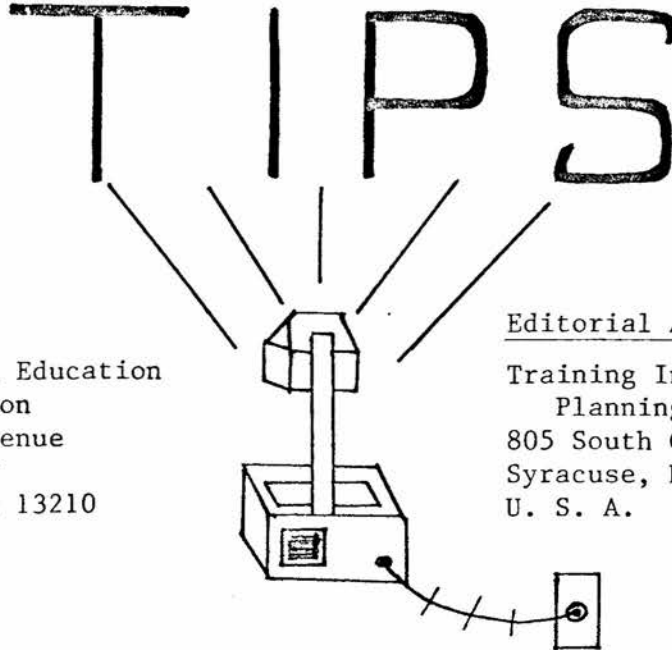
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Of Animals and (Wo)Men, or Indicators of Humanhood

The previous TIPS issue on deathmaking was very serious. We decided to give our readership a partial reprieve, and mix the serious aspects of this TIPS issue with a lot of things to laugh about. A major item to be addressed is the use of animals as means of human service, and the issue of attaching animal imagery to people.

General Societal Trends

In recent TI workshops, we pointed out that one of the ideologies which define our current western hedonistic societies is a relativistic philosophical materialism which, among other things, rejects the notion of absolute truths or values, and which leans towards probabilistic definitions of phenomena. One of the results of this ideology is that the demarcation between phenomena and entities often becomes blurred in people's minds. The concepts of right and wrong become very slippery as things become a little more or little less right or wrong here or there, so that people no longer have clear internalized guide posts for their conduct. Similarly, the distinction between what is human and what is not has faded, permitting both the legalization of abortion as well as the legitimization of large-scaled infanticide. Relatedly, the distinction between humans and animals has become blurred. Humans are very apt to be treated not only as nonhuman, but outright as animals, while animals are apt to be treated as if they were human.

Animalization of Devalued People

This blurring of lines of demarcation between humanhood and animalship plays smoothly into one of the oldest ways of transacting social devaluation, namely, the creation of social distance between oneself and a devalued person or group by (re)interpreting individuals or groups as nonhuman, and especially as animalistic. In fact, physically deformed people are most likely to be imaged by others as akin to, or linked with, the animal kingdom, evil, or death. It is thus most important to be aware of this aspect of deviancy-making, and to combat it by defending the images of people at risk, and by attaching positive rather than negative symbols, images and language to them.

Animal imaging of (devalued) people can take many forms, some of these being very subtle. One form of animal imaging of devalued people that has recently gained rapid popularity is to use animals as "therapists," and pets as "companions" of devalued people, and the intellectualization, scientification and medicalization of the age-old normative association of animals and humans.

The use of animals to serve on handicapped people is not new. For instance, in 1877, even prior to the advent of scientific behaviorism, a handicapped rail-roader in South Africa trained a baboon to do an incredible array of tasks, including pushing his master to work in a handcart, pulling railroad signals and controls, switching tracks, and so on. In the nine years before he died, he never made a mistake (Parade, July 11, 1982). However, the single biggest role historically played by animals in human service was that of the guide dog for blind people. Now, all this is rapidly burgeoning into a broad array of "animal therapies," including not only dog therapy but also cat therapy, monkey therapy, canary therapy, fish therapy, equestrian therapy, etc. This "movement" has given rise to PFT (pet-facilitated therapy), AFT (animal-facilitated therapy), CAP (companion animal partnership), Pet Mobiles, Visiting Dogs, Handi-Dogs, etc. While so-called "seeing eye dogs" have been used for a long time for the blind, "hearing ear dogs" for the deaf have been rare. Now, increasing efforts are "underfoot" in this direction. There is even a Red Acre Farm Hearing Dog Center in Stow, Massachusetts.

Obviously, the pet/companion animal craze means ever-increasing expenditures on all kinds of professional training programs, centers, conferences, journals, research projects, etc. The premier center for the scientific study of affairs associated with pet therapy and "companion animals" is the Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society, headed by a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania. Its tentative scientific conclusions are that having pets is good not only for handicapped people but for people in general! Believe it or not, the Center also includes ethologists, veterinarians, biologists, anthropologists, and social workers. One member of this august "research" group has admonished people not to "trivialize" people's love for their pet because the pet "may be the only friend they have in the world" (Curtis, 1981). The Pennsylvania center has also established a membership group, the Delta Society, and plans to publish its own journal (Science, October 23, 1981, p. 418-420). Founded in 1977, the Pennsylvania center held its first international conference in 1981 on the "human/companion animal bond." It was probably the first occasion at which psychiatrists and pet food manufacturers found themselves intermingling "meaningfully" to any significant degree. Also in attendance were many veterinarians, humane society officials, psychologists, social workers, philosophers, ethologists and pet store owners. The assembled experts noted that the field was so new that it was not clear yet just what questions should be asked or what research methodologies employed. The fact that 50 million American will be over age 65 by the year 2000 was cited as a major rationale for scientifying the pet business. Pets are apparently seen as the most cost-effective way to "deliver" emotional sustenance and a feeling of being needed to old people (Science, October 23, 1981). Apparently, we will in the future see scientific studies of bereavement over a lost pet, possibly a pet bereavement therapy, pet replacement therapy, and who knows what else.

At Washington State University, a People-Pet Partnership Program was formed in 1979 under the guidance of the dean of the veterinary college. This program appears to be a bit more practically oriented, though still heavily focused on the use of animals in serving handicapped people (Curtis, 1981).

At the University of Minnesota, a center to study human-animal relationships and environments has been set up, cosponsored by the schools of public health and veterinary medicine (Science, October 23, 1981).

One of the originators of the medicalization of animal usage i.e., the author of the concept of "the dog as co-therapist" in the 1950s, now an emeritus professor of psychology at Yeshiva University, is also still involved in this work. enthusiasts said they looked forward to the day when one could "prescribe a pet just as you would prescribe high blood pressure medication." (The day has arrived!)

One of the earliest of the more recent waves of "pet-facilitated therapy" projects was launched in 1975 at the Lima (Ohio) State Hospital (Science, October 23, 1981). Now, believe it or not, researchers at the National Institute on Aging and at Johns Hopkins University are already engaged in a five-year study of the role of pets in the lives of aged women, and there is talk of training dogs as "night nurses" to signal changes in a patient's condition (Science, October 23, 1981).

There are an amazing 130 organizations in North America accredited by the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association to deliver "equestrian therapy" for the handicapped. The earliest and largest such center is the Cheff Center in Augusta, Michigan. The director of the Cheff Center swears that the horses know that the riders are "people who need special care" (Curtis, 1981).

Articles on animal therapies have recently appeared in almost all news and human service media, popular and religious journals, and journals that mediate between science and the public. There have been articles in Science, the Smithsonian, Family Circle, on the news wire services, on the CBS weekly "60 Minutes," etc. The "discovery" of the "therapeutic" value of animals and pets has even assumed global proportions, in that the "movement" is catching on everywhere. Indeed, in West Germany, therapeutic horseback riding is promoted by a group that calls itself a "Curatorium," which promotes one version of therapeutic riding that it calls "hippo therapy." A French veterinarian is planning to establish a center for children-animal communications, hoping that animals will become the missing contact bridge to autistic children. Handicapped people are even being served by a Riding for the Disabled Association in South Australia--which raises money by selling horse manure, and advertising it broadly.

How does pet therapy work? Science has the answer! "An actual chemical change in the brain occurs when owner and pet interact pleasantly," according to a psychology professor at one of America's more illustrious universities (Pet Therapy Positive Prescription, UPI, in Syracuse Herald-Journal, December 19, 1980, p. B7). Once institution residents begin to relate positively to a pet, they supposedly will also relate more positively to fellow institution residents and personnel, "therapists said." Researchers found that humans with high blood pressure who watch fish swim in fish tanks experience a drop in blood pressure. As one of the researchers said, watching fish in their tanks will give you true relaxation. This study of Fish Tank Therapy was funded by the Pet Products Industry (Sojourners, 1981, 10(6), p. 7).

Of course, it is common, and culturally quite normative, for ordinary people to recommend to each other that they ought to have a pet in general, or a specific pet such as a cat or dog. However, when a physician or psychiatrist says the same thing to a "patient," it is not only called "pet therapy prescription," but could cost \$100 for the advice.

A large number of animal image juxtapositions reflect the theme that if an animal can do a certain thing, a handicapped person should be able to do it as well; or, as a mother put it: "If you can teach an ape to read, can you do something for my retarded child" (a headline in the New York Times Magazine, June 1, 1975).



The establishment of an animal farm at an institution for the mentally retarded (Green Acres Regional Center, West Virginia) was described by Woodford (1979). The article is a classic in reviewing and exalting the rationales for animal juxtaposition to devalued and wounded people.

"The therapeutic, educational, vocational and personal benefits of animals as a part of the total program for mentally retarded individuals are well known. The use of animals in psychotherapy as an intermediary to draw a child from himself and initiate positive interaction with another living thing has been shown to be effective with persons suffering from a variety of psycho-emotional disorders. In speech and language therapy experience with animals has been found by the author to effectively form a basis for expression which far exceeds that afforded by standard inanimate stimulus materials with mentally retarded children." "Vocationally, many mentally retarded persons have become self supporting in occupations entailing the care of animals. At one time many institutions for mentally retarded persons maintained their own farms, run by residents under supervision of trained personnel. These farms in many instances provided nearly all of the food stuffs used by the facility. The concept of a self supporting institution training individuals to be self supporting is an appealing one." The shelter was built from imperfect lumber and broken telephone poles. Further, it was stocked with three chickens, two sheep, a castrated he-goat, and an ass--once more not exactly an image-enhancing company. One of the results cited was retarded people who previously had shown no reaction to any human beings began to point excitedly at the animals. Finally, the author took pains to note that the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was founded as an outgrowth of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and that persons most active in concern for the welfare of animals had also been the ones most active in improving the welfare of children.

Perhaps it has been all the recent publicity about companion and therapeutic animals that inspired a 1981 Kersten Brothers greeting card showing a man wearing tinted glasses struggling with a pig (also wearing tinted glasses) that he was leading on a leash, with a legend alluding to a fake seeing-eye pig racket. In order to subject this vignette to its deserving bit of analysis, we might recall that pigs are said to be of very high intelligence, exceedingly clean if given the chance, easily trainable, and very friendly and sociable if properly brought up with humans from early pighood on. Thus, in theory, a seeing-eye pig might very well be superior to a seeing-eye dog, especially since a pig is apt to emit a steady chatter of grunts which can serve in a very useful feed-back role to a blind person, perhaps even somewhat replacing the taps of the cane which some blind people use somewhat akin to sonar. However, from a normalization perspective one obvious and overriding disadvantage would be the fact that pigs are culturally very negatively imaged, and would thus only become normalizing after at least a significant minority of valued people had taken to keeping pigs the way people now keep dogs.

Over and over, even in headlines, we hear the terms "Dog (cat, whatever) visits (nursing home, prison, whatever)"--as if they were human visitors dropping in. Of course, the humans don't, which is why the pets are pretended to do it (e.g., The (Flemington, NJ) Democrat, January 28, 1982). (Submitted by Michael Sclafani)

With so much animalization of clients going on, it is no wonder that people look upon the clients as animals. Wards of institutions may be compared to "farm-yards" where your human service tool is a "bucket and shovel," and where "what we need here is a vet, not a psychiatrist" (cited by Shearer, 1981).

The sad thing about animal "therapies" is that they "work" primarily in circumstances in which human service workers are incompetent in using appropriate service modalities, and/or where people have been denied all kinds of normative experiences. Instead of working on preserving and restoring normative lifestyles in general, the culture-alienated human service technology experts introduce one of innumerable culturally valid elements in an artificial, contrived, and often even very expensive fashion which suddenly requires special expertise, training, skills, and talents which quite obviously would not be needed to transact ordinary culturally normative processes.

The image dangers inherent in animal juxtapositions have been well recognized in show business (even if not in the human service business), because an old vaudeville and TV variety show maxim has been, "Never follow a dog act or an animal act." Actors who were esteemed enough to dictate such terms would not permit their act to be adjacent to an animal act, leaving that slot to actors on the way up or down. Of course, we know that the bottom of the entertainment career is doing commercials--especially dog-food commercials.

The TIPS editor believes that the pet therapy craze is a symptom of the rejection, sadness, and alienation of most of the devalued people to whom it is applied; and when promoted as a science, it symptomatizes (a) the stupidity of its learned promoters, and (b) the fact that this is a largely post-industrial society which needs dependent people as food for an ever-increasing human service economy.

#### Humanization of Animals

As mentioned above, the inappropriate humanization of (valued) animals is the other side of the coin of dehumanization of (devalued) people. Cosmetic surgery for pets has been around for some time, and may include the cropping of ears, the trimming of tails, and the fitting of orthodontic braces. Cats may be denatured by having their claws pulled, other animals may have their incisors filed down, and so on. It is estimated that up to 85% of veterinarians go along with such practices (AP, in Syracuse Herald Journal, September 29, 1981). There now are also obesity clinics for pets. As with people, a pet reducing diet with liver, chicken, beef, and fish can be very expensive (UPI, in Syracuse Herald Journal, January 28, 1982).

A striking example of the humanization of pets occurs when pets are remembered in people's wills as if they were family members, are buried in cemeteries that are indistinguishable from human cemeteries, and are even given "retirement benefits." Thus, in 1981, the Kent Animal Shelter on Long Island reoriented itself to spawn the Kent Retirement Home for Pets, "a very nice ranch-type home on two acres overlooking the Peconic River." "It is not a kennel" said the founder; and "older people worry about what will happen to their pets after they are gone, and we have decided to help give them peace of mind." One of the old poodles at the facility was referred to as a "paying guest...who died of a heart condition." In some respects, the pets whose owner may buy them a "retirement pension" have it better than people in nursing homes, because "they have the freedom to go in and out at will" without even having to sign discharge or legal release papers. However, much as elderly people are infantilized in nursing homes, so are the pets at this retirement home. The staff consists of a married couple who are referred to as "foster parents," and the fenced area for the retirees adjacent to the house is referred to as a "play area." It is a relief to note that the rates for this service are still well below those of nursing homes. "Lifetime care" is only \$6500 for a dog and \$3500 for a cat (New York Times, August 23, 1981). (Submitted by Eloise Beynon.)

The professional journals are beginning to carry ads mediating employment such as the one in NASW News (January 1982, p. 31): "Social work consultant on the human/companion animal bond available for inservice training of social workers and veterinarians on the theory, practice and economics of crisis intervention with individuals and families faced with the terminal illness, euthanasia, or accidental death of a pet animal." (News item submitted by John O'Brien)

At the 1981 annual meeting of the American Animal Hospital Association, two neurophysiologists conducted a continuing education course on pet behavior therapy. (Here, the pet is the patient, and the academician is the pet therapist.) Modern therapy for pets borrows heavily from the fads of the thousand-plus people therapies. For instance, therapists "network" (that is a verb now) the pets by demanding that the pet's entire "family" enter into the diagnostic and therapeutic process. Diagnosis is followed by prescription which, however, can turn out to be highly stereotyped. Thus, the particular therapists featured in a UPI report (Syracuse Herald-Journal, May 17, 1981) prescribed the addition of a second pet in each instance, concluding that pet problems overwhelmingly involved the "lonely dog syndrome" or its (cat, etc.,) equivalent.

Another blurring of definitional lines of who/what is human is exemplified by "Babyland General Hospital" in Cleveland, Georgia, where for an "adoption fee" ranging up to \$1,000, prospective "parents" (after an elaborate oath to be understanding, appreciative and responsible) receive an adoption certificate which authorizes them to take home with them--a doll. Babyland General Hospital is even housed in a former clinic, and employees dress and act like physicians and nurses. There is even an incubator for "premature" baby dolls and the "nurses" wear face masks. The operation has become very popular as well as profitable for the brains behind it (Newsweek, September 7, 1981, p. 71).

While there is not much to be said on behalf of cruelty to animals, the animal rights movement has sometimes gone to the other extreme. The first law to protect animals from human cruelty was introduced in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1641. In 1966, the Animal Welfare Act was the first federal law to attempt to safeguard the welfare of research animals. Today, the animal-righters would often treat animals like humans--and perhaps even better. Already, animals can be said to have more rights than an unborn human being. Perhaps they have even more rights than newborn infants, since the latter may now be "permitted" to dehydrate or starve to death if they are suspected of being handicapped, while people who willfully would permit an animal to starve or dehydrate to death would be more apt to be convicted in a court than people involved in infanticide.

North America is being overrun with attorneys who will strangle all societal leeways and options in order to make lucrative businesses for themselves. In just a few years, their number has doubled, and there is no end in sight to this increase. Among the manifestations of this curse is the vigorous expansion of lawyers into the areas of animal rights. Soon, every act of an animal, and every interaction between an animal and a human, may be contested. People in the "pet therapy" movement such as those at the Center for Interaction of Animals and Society at the University of Pennsylvania, are collaborating in the above effort. (AP, in Syracuse Herald-American, April 18, 1982). (Submitted by Milt Baker)



Apparently, a major tenet of the animal liberation movement has become that an experiment involving animals cannot be justified unless it is so important that it could also be justified on retarded people. This is a three-edged principle. It equates retarded humans and animals, it demands for animals the same safeguards some people would demand for use of retarded people who cannot give their own informed consent, and it would eliminate animals from much research by claiming them to be equal to humans (The New Republic, June 2, 1982). (Submitted by Chris Liuzzo.) Australian philosopher Peter Singer has argued that every researcher willing to use a beagle should be prepared to use a retarded infant orphan instead (yes, that is what the sage said) (Newsweek, August 9, 1982).

In 1981, a coalition of the New York Federation of Humane Societies, the Vegetarian Information Service, the Animal Rights Network and the National Fund for Animals were leading a demonstration against the annual convention of the American Rabbit Breeders Association. The protesters pointed out that rabbits are "extremely intelligent and affectionate, will come when called, like to watch television and quickly learn to use a litter box. You don't just take a lively pet like that and put it on a plate. They're killing the Easter Bunny." Somewhat remindful of the women's liberation movement, one protester said that "female rabbits are forced to produce litter after litter, and when they are drained or exhausted, they're given the axe." Spokespersons for the Breeders Association retorted that some of the most favorite pets of breeders are rabbits, that an expert whack to the neck is a humane way of killing rabbits, and that there "must be some sort of misunderstanding" (Syracuse Herald-Journal, October 19, 1981).

Two chimpanzees (including the famous Nim), who had been raised as if they had been humans in order to teach them to talk in sign language, had been abandoned by their human "families" and were being used as experimental animals at New York University. Many people became enraged and demanded that the animals be granted "retirement." The case was brought to a head when the animals started making signs (resembling turning a key with the hand) which mean "let me out of here," which apparently were recorded and shown on a television special (New York Times, in Syracuse Herald-Journal, June 14, 1982).

For scores of years, hundreds of thousands of humans have begged to be let out of institutions, and out of dependency on human service agencies, in quite plain human language, but with relatively little success. Maybe they would have been more successful if they had jumped around, scratching their ribs, and pretending to be turning imaginary keys in imaginary key holes.

#### Miscellaneous Animalization Tid-Bits

Of mice that are really men. Scientists have made the discovery that genetically, apes (including chimpanzees and gorillas) and humans are much more closely related than had previously been thought. In fact, apes and humans share 99% of their DNA, which is the long molecule of heredity, and thus the difference (including in our appearance) is controlled by a mere 1% of the DNA sequence. The difference between humans and baboons and squirrel monkeys is only a few percent more. One of the implications is that humans and apes differentiated from a common biological ancestor much more recently in time than has been thought. Another startling implication is that with a little bit of genetic engineering, scientists believe that humans and apes could be successfully mated (would this produce a mape?). This is giving further ammunition to the people who have been attacking the sanctity of human life, because they can now raise additional questions as to just how humanness and human life should be defined. How can we call a human newborn human if we cannot even be sure it is, or we are, different from a



chimpanzee? On the other hand, these discoveries introduce a potentially severe embarrassment to science. It is much easier to explain the difference in our bodies on the basis of the 1%, but much more difficult to explain the human mind on the basis of that 1% (Science Digest, August 1982).

Relatedly, Science (August 6, 1982) has noted that genetic engineering is now believed capable of crossing all kinds of inter-species barriers. For instance, a human hemoglobin gene might be inserted into an embryonic mouse cell. The September 10, 1982 issue of Science carried an article reporting the actual incorporation of human genes into mice, which were then able to transmit this gene to their progeny. This raises the interesting question, could human characteristics be transferred to animals, or vice versa? All this further contributes to the question of just what the nature of humanness is, and also raises the spectre of scientists being able to dramatically change human characteristics. What much of this means is that at the most elementary level, the biological stuff of life is interchangeable among living creatures.

Jest aside, the TIPS editor belongs to the ranks of those who believe that there are two areas in which limits should be set to science, since science itself will not: penetration of the atom, and the penetration of the cell. Well aware of the claims of the potential benefits of nuclear energy and genetic engineering, we believe that in the long run and in global balance, humans are unfit to penetrate these two mysteries because they are incapable of managing the knowledge and the power derived from such penetration.

Netting the EDP. The normalization principle dictates that one avoids language, buildings, logos and other images, etc., which project any kind of animal imagery on devalued people. However, beginning in 1981, the New York City police department, which said in 1960 that it "handled 21,000 EDP (emotionally disturbed people) calls," returned to an ancient method of treating mentally disordered people like animals (New York Times, January 28, 1981). It evolved a method for "netting" such people, as follows. First, a group of officers use long poles to keep at bay a person who acts in a disordered fashion, hopefully without inflicting serious harm upon him/her. Secondly, while so held at a distance, the individual is sprayed by a fire extinguisher, which is reportedly harmless in that the spray contains sodium bicarbonate, and apparently serves only the purpose of disorienting the person. While the disoriented person is thus distracted, a 10 x 14 foot net is cast over the person and quickly drawn taut by strings so that the captive is hopelessly and helplessly enmeshed and entangled in the net. An "EDP set," consisting of poles, fire extinguisher, and net, costs almost exactly \$3,000. The commissioner of the city's "Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services" had no more to say about this new-old method than "I am sure this has been carefully studied and considered." Apparently, this method is not a New York invention, but is becoming increasingly popular with police departments across the country.

Netting the deaf. The word "net" is commonly associated with animal imagery. However, the term "network" is not. It is therefore unfortunate that a discussion of new technology for deaf people refers to the "deaf net," sometimes even as "deafnet." Indeed, Deaf Net has become the official name for a program which makes communication aids available to people with impaired hearing, headquartered in Framingham, Massachusetts. Deaf people who use these communication aids are referred to as "deaf netters" (Programs for the Handicapped, July/August 1982).

The gentleman was a dog. Ignoring the ancient vaudeville maxim to "never follow a dog act," the Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tots campaign to provide Christmas gifts for underprivileged children (called by Time a humans' charity committee) appointed a dog (Time calls him a mutt) called Benji as co-chairperson (Time, August 20, 1982).

\*Handicapped people inducted by psychologists. The denormalizing animal images projected upon human beings who are being "treated" by means of cattle prods have often been commented upon in TI workshops. At some of these workshops, we also address in some depth the phenomenon of babble and confusion of tongues in human services and elsewhere. A good example of babble in relation to cattle prods is the following statement which we have recently run across: "We no longer use cattle prods but inductors...which disrupt negative behavior...so that positive behavior can be substituted."

\*Retarded crocodile sightseers? One citizen in England, observing a large group of severely retarded adults on a tour through a town, referred to them as a "ragged crocodile of sightseers" (Daily Mail, August 10, 1981). Certainly, this interpretation bears out the importance of avoiding congregations of devalued people in numbers larger than will easily blend into the background, and/or which will tax the assimilation potential of even positively inclined citizens.

\*How now brown down? Most people would probably associate the name Purina with the television commercials that they have seen on Purina Cat Chow, or with the food that their dog eats. People are much less likely to be aware that Purina also makes other kinds of foods; therefore, the production of a cookbook for retarded people (Step-By-Step Pictorial Cookbook) by the Ralston Purina Company (St. Louis, Mo.) does tend to create a deviancy image juxtaposition between retarded people, and cats and dogs.

\*Hear the herald angels neigh. In Hamilton, Ohio, the Sonshine Class (a Sunday school class of retarded people) announced an afternoon of "Gospel Truth with Trained Animals and Magic," with a special invitation to handicapped people, their families and workers. (Submitted by a secret friend of the Training Institute in that part of the country.)

\*Science discovers parents can do same jobs as dogs. If you hear of a child that is viewed as troubled or troublesome, and the dog therapist fails to effect a cure, try "Parents as Co-Therapists with Autistic Children." (Parent-Child Program Series. Report #3. 1978. ADM 78-655))

\*Dolphins discovered to be smarter than educators. Educators' lack of ingenuity in utilizing established pedagogies, combined with their peculiar perceptions of devalued peoples, will often lead them to the most bizarre and esoteric pedagogic "tricks." For instance, in early August of 1980, various news media carried syndicated (CP) news reports about a paper presented at the sixteenth world assembly of the World Organization for Preschool Education which described a, rather elaborate schema for using dolphins to help retarded children to extend their attention span and read. This bizarre methodology not only casts an animal deviancy image upon people already at risk of being animal-imaged, but was referred to by their advocates as being "a logical choice," since dolphins were said to be intelligent, enjoyed working with humans--and were readily accessible where the project was conducted.

\*Bozo for president. At the Florida International University in Miami, they have been using dolphins and killer whales to improve methods of teaching retarded people. One dolphin was taught to teach a retarded child to read, and one of the presiding psychologists cited as a rationale that retarded children pay more attention to animals than to anything else. Another rationale is that killer whales are smart animals, and if one can learn how to teach them, one might be able to teach retarded people better (Toronto Star, February 11, 1982). Gosh, perhaps we can use chimpanzees to teach our government not to make any more nuclear weapons. If a chimpanzee was made commander-in-chief, the generals would probably pay close attention to it. (Submitted by Max Korn)

\*No colored pets need apply here. While valued animals (especially pets) may be humanized, devalued people must be animalized. Apparently, there was still a pet cemetery (humanization of animals) in Washington, DC in the 1960s that guaranteed that "pets owned by Negroes are not acceptable" (dehumanization of devalued people). Yet even while this was going on, there were also already pet psychoanalysts in Washington who were "counseling" pets and wealthy owners "conjointly" (humanization of animals) on the assumption (dehumanization of crazy owners) that they shared psychic problems (Carpenter, 1970).

\*Oops--shot himself in the tongue. Apparently without intending irony, a psychologist (Maple, 1981) argued in a lengthy article that "zoos and universities--especially psychology departments--have good reasons to form partnerships, for each has much to offer the other."

\*Animal food for thought. Guess: did we make up the letter below, is it for real, or might it have been for real?

"I have recently graduated from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and I am hoping to be able to work in a zoo. I have long wanted to work with captive animals, especially in your area of the country. I am writing in the hope that you have a job opening, or will have in the near future. I have enclosed my resumé of my educational background, and the few odd jobs I have held through college. My opportunities for field-related work have been severely limited, but much of my class work has been on the practical aspects of wildlife biology.

I developed an interest in zoo work during my Animal Behavior class which included a field project on captive animals. I feel that zoos are an important part of the community and the wildlife system. I would like to contribute to the proper care of these animals and to the education of the public, especially the children.

I hope you will keep me in mind should an opening occur. I would welcome an opportunity to visit your city for an interview if my application comes up for serious consideration. I will look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely,  
(signed)

P.S. If there is no zoo work available in your area at this time, I am prepared to work with handicapped people instead."

\*Senator, please think of the guerrillas as gorillas. The extent of violence perpetrated by the government against its people in the Philippines is not well known amongst most people. Much as in Central America, the war in the Philippines is mostly between the government and the poor. For instance, on Holy Thursday of 1982, the people of a small village gathered in their chapel for religious service: when, without warning, the chapel was shelled by artillery, resulting in 200 casualties. This massacre was an ideal setup because rarely do so many of the peasantry gather together in one spot so unsuspectingly, nor could the military have a better excuse than to say that it thought that so many people gathering together looked like they were guerrillas. Now one does not know whether to laugh or to cry at the way some conservative members of the Congress have been protesting the way dogs get treated in the Philippines. They had articles about animal cruelty in the Philippines put into the Congressional Record (Mother Jones, July 1982). The fact is that many human beings have been treated far worse than dogs by the dictatorship in the Philippines, but the very same representatives have often not been the least bit concerned about it.



\*Amnesty for animals. This is hard to believe, but in humane society circles, it is widely stated that one of the greatest causes of burnout among workers in animal shelters is having to perform "euthanasia" on abandoned pets and similar animals. It is amazing that the language used along these lines can just as readily be applied to humans. A worker at an animal shelter on Long Island said, "Moving, not enough time, behavior problems--I've heard them all. Let's face it; people give up their pets when the animals become inconvenient." As one shelter worker put it, "It makes me angry that we have to act as mercy killers for the community. We hide the plight of animals by collecting them off the streets so the public does not have to deal with them and by executing them behind closed doors so the public does not have to see." The director of the Dallas Animal Shelter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said, "I believe only the most skilled in the shelter should do the euthanizing"; "If people get to the point where they don't mind killing, they shouldn't do it anymore." (Curtis, in September 1982 Smithsonian, p. 40-49).

\*Can there be more rear ends of horses than there are horses? At the very time at which "animal treatments" of devalued people are becoming so problematic, the (National) Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) and the International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA) have decided to form an alliance whereby the ARC would become the "official charity" of the IAHA. A classical example of deviancy image juxtaposition was created in the Newsletter of the National ARC (The ARC, January/February 1982), when it showed the logo of the ARC and the logo of the IAHA linked by a plus sign, with the caption "A Winning Combination." The newsletter only comes out a few times a year, and has been running eight pages each recently. One whole page was devoted to this equestrian connection, and parts of its other pages were devoted to other vegetable and animal juxtapositions, e.g., almost half a page was devoted to an article showing a handicapped male riding a cow (conceivably a steer), and incredibly, the very same article also managed to give quite a bit of coverage to puppetry classes for handicapped people.

\*Support your ARC. Most people in the field of mental retardation associate the acronym ARC with the term Association for Retarded Citizens. Imagine our surprise when we recently received a letter that had the very prominent acronym ARC over its return address, but where below, in much smaller print, one found out that this referred to the Animal Research and Conservation Center. Just another of the numberless unbelievable coincidences of which our lives seem to be full, and which almost always cast negative rather than positive images on devalued people.

\*A dog's life. In many respects, the pets of US military personnel receive better medical benefits than elderly people under Medicare. For instance, Medicare now covers only 44% of the medical bills of the elderly, while "Peticare" pays 66% for a total of \$3.3 million a year--with no cuts requested by the Administration (Grey Panther Network, September/October 1982).

\*A spot for Spots. Not far away from Syracuse is Marcy, where there is something of a "comprehensive pet center" that cannot only put a pet under in a dignified and expensive fashion, but that also is a member of the International Association of Pet Cemeteries and runs a pet motel, called by some "the only legal cat house in town." Says its operator: "90% of the people are crying when they call me on the phone. Sometimes I can hardly understand them." Erstwhile masters come and visit their pet's plot in the springtime and--believe it or not--on Memorial Day. Syracuse, too, has a Pet Haven with "over 6,000 interments" for "that loyal, aging, pet that deserves a befitting burial." Customers can avail themselves of caskets, memorials, cremations, urns and grave sites.



\*Clever Hans is a very dead horse. Around the turn of the century there was Clever Hans, a horse that could do arithmetic problems. The horse became extremely famous, and people, including scientists, came from all over to pose arithmetic problems to Hans. Hans would indicate the answer by knocking on the floor with his hoof. After some detective work, it was found that his owner, quite innocently and unconsciously, gave miniscule bodily cues to the horse as to when to start stomping and when to stop. This became a landmark case in how unconscious behavior of one person can influence other organisms who, in turn, may not be conscious of the influence themselves.

One would have thought that the scientists who were trying to raise apes like children and teach them language so as to communicate with humans would know all about phenomena such as these, but events have shown otherwise. We have all heard of these little simians who have been raised by scientist couples and who supposedly learned gestural language. Many publications have claimed that scientists have now proven conclusively that human language is merely a quantitatively more complex achievement over what other animals are doing or can be taught to do. For a while, it seemed as if these studies were impeccable, until relatively recently critics claimed that they had discovered that the Clever Hans and similar phenomena had been at work. Some of these critics have claimed that the apes have not developed any language other than the kind of sign communication that takes place when cats will meow a certain way when they want to be let out and a different way when they want food, or will come when given a special call.

The efforts of the ape teachers is commendable and certainly worth while, but some of the naiveté that seems to have prevailed is appalling, and must surely be the product of ideological preconception about human nature. This is the more remarkable when one considers that some of these researchers have invested a good part of their lifetimes in the rearing of their little simian babies.

\*Project Mickey Mouse. That was the name of a Calgary (Alberta) project to take handicapped children to Disneyland. What might the Lions Club think of that?

\*Project Pelican. The Massachusetts Association for Mental Health operated a \$20,000 per year program in 1981 entitled "Pierre the Pelican Program Consultation and Education," funded by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health. That's better than "Mickey Mouse Consultation and Education."

\*Bite them bite them bite them bite them. How people are apt to form negative images of devalued people and groups, and generalize these images to anything pertaining to such persons, is brought out by a fascinating vignette. There was a woman in Syracuse who had been confined to a wheelchair for several decades and who had a very limited range of motor functions. However, she was a bright person who by force of personality and talents was a leader in the community, and coordinated a large group of volunteers who operated a soup kitchen for street people. She was known to public welfare personnel as a very vociferous advocate for herself and others, and had "earned" a reputation among welfare personnel as being "mean." Her husband owned a medium-sized, extremely friendly, and indeed sometimes even cowardly dog. One day, a welfare worker came to visit her, and quite apprehensively asked where her Doberman pinscher was. Informed that the only dog on the premises was the above-mentioned harmless mongrel, the worker exclaimed with relief that the woman's case records noted that she owned a Doberman pinscher. Obviously, a fascinating process of progressive distortions had taken place in the minds of some welfare workers, who attributed to the woman's dog some of the qualities which they (quite invalidly) attributed to the woman herself, perhaps because she is indeed in the world of public assistance recipients what welfare workers might perceive a Doberman pinscher to be in the world of dogs.

### Human Beasts and Their Criminal Responsibility

Prior to the M'Naughten rule in 1843, there prevailed in English-speaking countries the so-called "wild beast" test of criminal responsibility of mentally handicapped people, supposedly based on a statement of the English judge Henry D. Bracton of 1256, who said that an insane person should not be held morally accountable since he was not far removed from a beast. Actually, the judge used the Latin term *brutus*, which is more neutral as a reference to animals than is the English term "beast." In medieval intellectual usage, *brutus* was a term commonly employed to refer to animals in distinction to humans.

Further, in his discussion, he also likened such individuals to infants as regards their liability and responsibility. Thus, it would actually be more correct to restate Bracton's intent as implying that an insane person might lack sensibility and/or have the mind of a child, rather than that the insane were to be likened to wild beasts with all the negative imagery that goes with that idea. In the 1670s, Lord Chief Justice Sir Edward Coke paraphrased Bracton in English by using the term "brutes" rather than beasts, thus following a common practice of using a vernacular term close to the original Latin term. However, in 1724, Judge Tracy reformulated the principle, but now juxtaposed the English words "brute" and "wild beast" in the same sentence. It was his formulation which was then eventually incorporated into American law, and all the earlier phrasings and meanings were dropped, with nothing remaining but the "wild beast" phrasing and imagery. Thereafter, wild beast language and imagery very commonly permeated legal thinking, speaking and writing about mentally disordered people.

Part of the theory of criminality of Lombroso was that criminals are born with many of the characteristics of animals. This theory contributed mightily toward the equation of deviant people with animals that was particularly prominent during the genetic alarm period, and which continues to prevail at least to some degree. For instance, we continue to witness the hidden equation of criminality with animality in the graphic arts where "criminals" are commonly depicted as having animalistic features: larger jaws, greater bodily strength, etc. (Platt, A. M., & Diamond, N. L. The origins and development of the "wild beast" concept of mental illness and its relation to theories of criminal responsibility. Journal of the History of Behavioral Sciences, 1965, 1, 355-367).

### Miscellaneous

\*The good news is that there is a very good, inexpensive and beneficial program of horseback riding for children and adults with handicaps in Louisville, Kentucky. The bad news is that it goes by the hyper-fancy name of "Exceptional Equitation." Usually, such fancy names indicate very expensive programs, which is fortunately not the case here.

\*An animal protection group is called PETA, for People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (Science, December 11, 1982).

\*From early Christian days, it was common to utilize animal imagery, as for instance the use of a different animal for each of the four evangelists, the lamb as Christ, the serpent on a stick as the crucified Christ, the fish standing for Christianity in general, the dove representing the Holy Spirit, etc. However, the Quinisext Council in 692 forbade the representation of Christ in animal form, on the basis of the rationale that animal imagery was demeaning--perhaps even inviting of idolatry.

\*In Western Massachusetts, students held a white rat race, the benefits to go to local programs for handicapped children (Daily Hampshire Gazette, April 4, 1932). (Submitted by Bernard Graney)

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### Animal Humor

A German joke tells of a race between the snail and a camel which, to the astonishment of all, was won by the snail. Immediately, a commission was instituted to study the curious outcome. After a year, the commission reported that the camel lost because it followed official procedures.

Another German joke involves a conversation between two lions in a zoo. "I heard that you broke out once. How were things on the outside?" "Not bad," said the other lion, "I hid myself at the government office building, and each day I devoured a governmental functionary, but nobody noticed for two months. Then I made the terrible mistake of ingesting the cleaning woman, and immediately everyone and their brother was after me" (Amerika Woche, September 16, 1982).

The editor can assure TIPS readers that as German jokes go, these are not bad.

### PASS Workshop

Waukesha, Wisconsin, November 15-19, 1982. Tuition is \$210. Contact the Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy, 2 West Mifflin Street, Room 200, Madison, Wisconsin 53703-2580. Telephone 608/251-9600.

### TIPS Employment Exchange

Finger Lakes Living Associates, Inc. seeks a Residential Director who has interest and experience in developing strongly normalization-based residential opportunities for adults with mental disorders. This is an opportunity for a creative manager to develop a quality system in a rural Finger Lakes area of New York State. Position expected to start February, 1983. For further information: David B. Schwartz, Finger Lakes Living Associates, RD 1 Box 144B, Lodi, NY 14860; 607/582-6826.

### TI Publications

The TI has revised its publications list. Over the long run, the TI will sell fewer books and more items which it generates itself, such as bibliographies, resource packages, slide sets, etc. The revised publications list will be sent free on request.

For years, the TI has collected and prepared a number of written reports of the evaluations of a wide range of human services by means of the PASS system. These reports are very useful in bringing out issues that often arise in connection with a particular type of service, and in illustrating human service evaluation report writing in general. To our surprise, there has been hardly any demand for these reports. At one time, we had been under the impression that anyone concerned



with reporting (especially of PASS evaluations) to agencies would be interested in looking at a number of such reports, especially those that have been considered to be superior. The TI has a listing of the reports that can be purchased, with each report being briefly annotated as to what kind of service is involved and what the quality of the report is. The listing is available free on request.

#### Good News

\*We noted in the June 1982 issue of TIPS that the then-editor sub-supreme had to give up her post in order to reproduce her kind. This she has accomplished, the reproduction consisting of baby Carrie Ann, with reproducer and reproductee doing very well.

\*In fall of 1982, the US Department of Health and Human Services sent a letter to 6800 hospitals which received federal financial assistance, reminding them that Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 does not permit denial of medical care to handicapped infants "solely because of their handicaps" (Programs for the Handicapped, July/August 1982).

\*In June of 1982, the Civil Aeronautics Board issued an official set of rules for accommodating handicapped air travelers. Generally, these rules look very reasonable and satisfactory.

\*A recent study has confirmed earlier findings that most children with epileps can eventually be taken off anti-convulsant drugs without having relapses (ARC-Connecticut News, September 1982).

\*There is splendid good news. TIPS mentioned how a 63-year old woman was denied her petition to adopt her foster child who was born addicted to heroin because of her mother's addiction, and whom she had had since birth for 2.5 years. A court overrode the child placement agency and the woman was able to adopt the child (AP, Syracuse Herald-Journal, September 11, 1982).

\*The association of Professional Engineers of Ontario announced (Globe & Mail, February 4, 1982) that it will require a 3-hour examination in professional ethics and the law as part of the process of licensing engineers in Ontario.

#### Good News & Bad News

\*In 1978, a federal law was passed making data on the environmental and health effects of some of the more widely-used pesticides available to the public. However, pesticide producers (especially DuPont, Union Carbide and Stauffer) have managed to ward off the date of release for a full four years, until recently (Science, September 24, 1982).

\*Judge David Bazelon, highly respected jurist long concerned with problems of mental handicap, resigned from the Commission on the Accreditation for Corrections, the only national organization that inspects and accredits adult and juvenile prisons and similar facilities in the US. He charged it with failure to open its fact-finding and decision-making processes to public participation and scrutiny, and severely criticized it for conflicts of interest, and for avoiding the very type of supervision of quality that the Commission was supposed to be exercising. He also pointed out that the system whereby the subjects of review buy membership in the Commission (with these fees supporting the commission) builds in a profound conflict of interest (Institutions, Etc., September 1982).

\*The insanity of the insanity plea in court has been giving vast ammunition to the media joke-makers and cartoonists. An example is a cartoon in the September 5, 1982 Syracuse Herald American where a typical inmate of a prison commented to his cellmate, "If I had my life to live over, I'd plead insanity."



\*There is hardly any safe drug for women to take during pregnancy, especially early pregnancy. For instance, there is only one drug currently available in the US for the treatment of morning sickness, namely Bendectin, which is now believed to cause babies to have a hole in the diaphragm (Healthwise, October 1982).

\*In August 1982, one of the most popular home video tapes was "Halloween II," in which a masked lunatic strangles, slashes and splatters everyone in a hospital. One wonders whether the popularity of this movie might reflect people's unconscious death wish toward severely ill people (Syracuse Herald American September 5, 1982).

\*Apparently, there has been a systematic coverup of the reality that vast stores of radioactive waste have been dumped right outside San Francisco bay between 1953 and 1962. Oddly enough, the US Navy is seeking permission to scuttle some of its obsolescent nuclear submarines in the same area (Amerika Woche, Sept. 23, 1982).

### The Truth About Human Service "Cuts"

The TIPS editor constantly hears lamentations about the cuts in human service monies. Actually, I believe that the vast majority of people are profoundly mistaken about these cuts. What they are seeing is cuts in their own jobs, or in the majority of services or agencies with which they are familiar. What they are not seeing is that our society, being a largely post-industrial one, must maintain jobs in areas other than primary agricultural and industrial production. It does this extensively through the following mechanisms: (a) the production of unneeded and/or worthless goods; (b) the production of goods that will not last; (c) the production of arms that are either not used at all, or used only to kill; and (d) the creation of service jobs. Society definitely needs service jobs worse than afflicted people need services. Once we understand this, we can also understand more clearly why human services are so abysmally ineffective, and in their net totality create and maintain at least as much impairment, affliction and dependency as they ameliorate. Given these realities, and looking at the present administration and its economic politics, we can certainly assume that some money is being shifted from human services into the arms business, but a great deal of money that appears to be vanishing from human services is actually merely being reallocated toward those services that are less habilitational and more destructive. In other words, if a community residential service experiences a cut in so many positions, we can expect this money to pop up in places such as institutions, nursing homes and prisons. We can furthermore expect that when human service jobs disappear, the money does not necessarily disappear but often goes into a different type of position even within the same sphere of work. For instance, an institution might eliminate five attendant positions at \$10,000 each and end up with a new psychiatrist position at \$50,000. In other words, the money is apt to be shifted from the less favored to the more favored social classes within the same service sector. This way, the money keeps circulating, but to the ordinary perceiver it looks as if it has vanished.

A major implication of all of this is that people concerned with human services should not so much decry the so-called "cuts" which are sometimes really no more than failures to continue to increase budgets as in the past, but should instead oppose the shell game of switching and realloacting human service funds into even yet less productive purposes than before.

### For Christmas...

...Give someone you love or hate a TIPS subscription!

"HOUSEKEEPING ANNOUNCEMENTS"

TIPS Editorial Policy. TIPS comes out every other month, and contains articles, news, information, insights, viewpoints, reviews, developments, etc., that relate to the interests and mission of the Training Institute. While TIPS is mostly concerned with phenomena and developments that have to do with human services, it also addresses some of the larger issues which affect our society and the quality of life on earth, as well as the ways in which decisions are made in our society. These higher-order phenomena will eventually express themselves in human services in various ways, including in human service values and funding. Usually a TIPS issue will devote a portion of its space to one specific theme. TIPS will address issues whenever and wherever they occur. Disclosures of adaptive developments promoted, or of dysfunctions perpetrated, by a particular party or government should not be taken as partisan political statements. We assume that subscribers are people who lead hard lives struggling against great odds, and are aware of many shortcomings in human services. Thus, we try to inject a bit of levity into TIPS so as to make subscribers' lives more bearable (or less unbearable, as the case may be), even if not deliriously joyful. In fact, some TIPS content is apt to be depressing and in need of occasional levitation. TIPS gets many items from other sources, tries to report developments truthfully, but cannot be responsible for errors contained in original sources. Specific items from TIPS may be reproduced without permission as long as the full TIPS reference is cited/acknowledged, and as long as only small portions of an issue are so reproduced.

The Training Institute. The Training Institute for Human Service Planning, Leadership and Change Agency (TI), directed by Wolf Wolfensberger, PhD, functions under the auspices of the Division of Special Education and Rehabilitation of Syracuse University's School of Education. Dr. Wolfensberger is a professor in the Mental Retardation Area of the Division. Since its founding in 1973, the TI has been supported primarily from fees earned from speaking events and workshops (across the world as well as in Syracuse), and to a small extent from consultations, evaluations of services, and the sale of certain publications and planning and change agency tools. There have been no federal grants. TI training has (a) been aimed primarily at people who are, and who aspire to be, leaders and change agents, be they professionals, public decision-makers, members of voluntary citizen action groups, student etc., and (b) primarily emphasized values related to human services, the rendering of compassionate and comprehensive community services, and greater societal acceptance of impaired and devalued citizens.

Invitation to Submit Items for Publication. We invite submissions of any items suitable for TIPS. This may include "raw" clippings, "evidence," reviews of publication or human service "products," human service dreams (or nightmares), service vignettes, aphorisms or apothegms, relevant poetry, satires, or brief original articles. We particularly welcome items that are good news, since bad news seems to come so much easier and more frequently. Send only material you don't need back, because you won't get it back. If we don't goof, and the submitter does not object, submissions that are used will be credited.

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